

Minutes
Prescription Work Group
August 8, 2007

Present: Tom Werner, Melinda Malott, Vicki Mills, Kim Vander Weyden and Dianne Vander Weyden, Susan Boch, Todd Johnson

Membership Status: Membership directory distributed. Melinda to add Susan Boch. Todd Johnson to contact Dave Fulton at Whitesell's pharmacy to see if he is still interested in being a part of the group.

STATUS OF WORK GROUP ACTIVITIES:

- 1) **Medication Resource List Reformatting:** No new updates. Todd Johnson asked to be added as a member of this working group. Next resource list update to coincide with new formatting.
- 2) **Time Gap Problem:**
 - Pharmaceutical Company Assistance**– Tom reported that the pilot program is still in the development phase. Astra Zenica attempting to encourage other pharmaceutical companies to participate with MedBank and Astra Zenica. The target for the proposal is November 2007. One of the goals of the program is to increase the number of medications available to through MedBank pharmacy.
 - Vouchers** – No new information reported
 - Prescribing Generic vs Brand** – It was noted that no comments had been prepared for Dr. Carol Malkowitz. Tom will forward presentation members to get their comments to Katherine Murray ASAP. Katherine to assemble comments and relay them to Dr. Malkowitz
 - Stream lining the application process** – No new information

Discharge Supply of medications – It was noted that even if you go through Medbank and it appears you will be eligible for MA or PAC, you then do not qualify for meds from MedBank. This is a problem since the application approval process can take weeks. Todd is familiar with one particular drug company that allows real time authorization. It would be helpful if other companies would follow suit.

- 3) **Legislation:** This group met since our last meeting. They have sent individual letters to legislators about very specific situations. Vicki provided the group with a list of legislators contact information. Members of this subcommittee will continue to look for opportunities for Coalition members and community members at large to have a voice in legislative matters related to prescription drugs. Vicki noted she would have the opportunity to speak in front of delegation members on November 6, 2007. Melinda to research more about this opportunity.
- 4) **Outreach:** PharmD Carol Malkowitz from Clifton T. Perkins center will make a presentation to the physicians seeking CME's on September 14, 2007.

Next Meeting: September 12 – 4pm at FMH second floor meeting room
The next full Coalition meeting will be October 3, 2007, FMH at 4:00pm.